

# Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 51: Chapter 51 - Read Free English Romance Novel

Chapter 51 Satisfied ? Chapter 51 Satisfied ? Maerwyn trembled , burying her face even lower . A wave of bitter regret washed over her . I never should have touched Elowen ! +35 Free Coins But who could have guessed Uncle Cassian would take her side ? He's never shown an interest in anyone's affairs before ... Elowen must have bewitched him ! Cassian said nothing more , his gaze shifting to Autumn . The maid trembled violently , prostrate on the floor like a leaf in a storm . Finally , his eyes rested on the two guards . No words were needed .

The sheer weight of his presence , the cold authority radiating from him , was enough . Even those two burly men cowered , lowering their heads in panic . " Cassian ... " Isla drew a steadying breath , mustering her courage . " Since the Duchess came to no harm - not a hair on her head was touched - this is really an internal palace matter . Perhaps ... " Cassian's eyebrow lifted slightly . " A moment ago , Your Majesty invoked the bond between His Majesty and me , urging my wife to keep this from me . Now you call it an ' internal palace matter ,' as if to exclude me .

Having spent my life on campaign , I fear my understanding is simple . Please clarify : do you consider me close to His Majesty , or do you consider our connection severed ? " Isla's face paled . Theodric shot her an exasperated glare . He owed his secure throne in no small part to Cassian's blood and sacrifice . With the northern borders still unstable , he relied on Cassian . How dare she imply otherwise ! " Furthermore , " Cassian continued , a cold edge to his smile , " it is only because my wife is unharmed that we are having this conversation .

Had she come to harm , heads would have already rolled within these palace walls . " His tone was lethally calm , yet brimming with an undeniable , intimidating authority that filled the entire chamber . Isla wanted to accuse him of overstepping . But Theodric spoke first , waving a hand . " Cassian , you don't need to lift a finger . I'd have dealt with them myself - and fast ! " Isla closed her eyes in despair . 1 MON 11 KIKA G O 1/3 16:23 Mon , May 11 Chapter 51 Satisfied ?

+35 Free Coins Elowen stood quietly , watching as Autumn and the guards , under the combined pressure , confessed everything . She watched Theodric thunder at Maerwyn , sentencing her to six months of strict confinement , forbidden to leave her quarters without express permission . She watched Maerwyn dissolve into ugly , heaving sobs , her eyes flashing with hatred toward Elowen before she caught Cassian's icy gaze and cowered back , her face contorting further . Theodric , learning the plot had been genuinely aimed at Elowen - and in front of Cassian no less - was furious .

His recent promise to protect her fresh in his mind , he turned his anger on Isla , blaming her lax parenting for their daughter's corruption . Isla , still weak , scrambled from the chaise to kneel before Theodric , kowtowing and begging forgiveness . " Satisfied ? " Elowen , absorbed in the unfolding drama , started at the low voice near her ear . She turned to find Cassian watching her intently . She felt a flicker of embarrassment , but answered honestly with a soft , " Mm - hmm . " She met his gaze sincerely . " Thank you , my lord . " A faint curve touched his lips .

He seemed pleased by her gratitude . At least she's appreciative . His eyes lingered on her ear for a moment , then narrowed . " You're injured . " Elowen blinked . How does he know ? As if reading her mind , he tilted his chin slightly toward her left ear . " Your earring . Half of it is broken . " Elowen raised a hand to her earlobe . Her white pearl drop was indeed shattered . She thought back . It must have happened when Alaric shoved her against the wall on her way to find Theodric . " Who hurt you ? " Cassian asked , his expression growing serious . Elowen hesitated .

Should she tell him about the encounter with Alaric now ? It didn't seem the right moment . Theodric had just punished his daughter ; to immediately bring up his son's transgression might wound royal pride and breed resentment toward Cassian . Even between brothers , one was still the sovereign . 1 O 11 O O KIKAG r 2/3 16:23 Mon , May 11 O Chapter 51 Satisfied ? After a moment's thought , she pressed her lips together . " Noth- " " Father . Mother . " Alaric's voice sounded from the doorway at that exact moment . +35 Free Coins He stepped into the chamber , his eyes landing on Cassian .

His feet froze mid - step , his eyes widened with instant , visceral fear . The childhood dread of his formidable uncle seized him completely . Cassian raised an eyebrow . " Grown so tall , yet you've forgotten your manners ? " Alaric's lip twitched slightly . He forced down his panic . " Uncle . " Cassian's gaze was steady . " And ? " Alaric paused , then belatedly noticed Elowen standing beside the wheelchair . A strange , sick feeling momentarily overshadowed his fear . Elowen's hair was elegantly coiled .

She wore a gown of deep violet silk , the cuffs embroidered with delicate gold thread in a pattern of waves and clouds . Cassian wore a tunic of a strikingly similar shade of violet . One standing , one seated , they formed a picture of unexpected harmony . A sharp , acidic pang twisted in Alaric's chest . It felt as if something precious that belonged to him had been stolen . 1 Cedella Cedella is a passionate storyteller known for her bold romantic and spicy novels that keep readers hooked from the very first chapter.

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## Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 52: Chapter 52 - Read Free English Romance Novel

Chapter 52 The Price of Transgression Alaric stared at Elowen for a long , silent moment , lost in his own turmoil . +35 Free Coins Cassian noticed . His brow furrowed . His fingers , resting on the arm of his wheelchair , tapped twice in a gesture of impatience . He let out a soft , dismissive click of his tongue . The sound snapped Alaric back to the He gritted his teeth , steeling himself . " ... Aunt Elowen . " Cassian's frown did not ease . Pres Across the room , Theodric noted the odd tension . " What brings you here ? " he asked Alaric , his tone pointed .

Alaric glanced at the kneeling Isla and the weeping Maerwyn before lowering his head slightly . " In the Gilded Hall , with Mother and Maerwyn both absent , people are curious what happened . " Cassian let out a low , humorless laugh . Theodric snorted , " More like you're the curious one . " Alaric didn't deny it . Theodric gestured angrily toward Maerwyn , his expression one of profound disappointment . " It's your sister ! On her own birthday , she couldn't behave ! She plotted to harm your aunt ! " Alaric stiffened . " Harm Aunt Elowen ? " " And she's dumb as a rock .

She bought some aphrodisiac wine and gave it to the wrong person - your mother drank it ! " Theodric continued , exasperated . " If not for the Duchess alerting me in time , who knows what chaos would have ensued ! " Understanding dawned on Alaric . " So when El- when Aunt Elowen came to find you earlier , it was because of Mother ? " Isla , still on her knees , looked up sharply . " What else would it be ? " Alaric fell silent . I thought ... she came to see me . " Your Majesty , " Cassian's measured voice cut through . " There is something that puzzles me . " " What is it ?

" Theodric asked , " From what you and the Crown Prince just said , when my wife went to get you , she ran into the Crown Prince ? " Cassian's tone was deceptively casual . Theodric nodded . " Yes , " " Which would suggest , " Cassian continued , his words dropping like stones , " that the injury to my wife was His Highness ' doing ? " OO 11 O KIKA G 1/3 16:23 Mon , May 11 S Chapter 52 The Price of Transgression Theodric paused , taken aback . Alaric's heart lurched with sudden , panic .

+35 Free Coins Theodric remembered the scene earlier - the tension between Alaric and Elowen , her claim that he had pushed her . His face darkened . " Good ... Very good ! " he spat , glaring first at Isla . " The daughter you raised ! The son you raised ! " He turned to Elowen and Cassian , his expression shifting to one of forced civility . " You have my word . Those at fault will be dealt with . The wrong done to you will be made right . " His face hardened as he addressed Alaric . " You caused injury to the Duchess . You will cover all costs for her physician and medicine .

Furthermore , as Crown Prince , your disrespect toward your elder is intolerable . You are suspended from court sessions for the next week . You will spend the time copying texts on propriety and duty until you understand your error ! " That was Alaric's sentence . Later , Elowen discovered what Theodric meant by " making it right . " She and Cassian had just returned to Duskmoor Manor when a royal carriage arrived hard on their heels. It contained a chest brimming with solid gold and silver coins , and a gilded ivory scepter inlaid with emeralds and rubies , as long as a man's forearm .

Though her father and brothers had held high military rank , their expenses were great - often covering the families of fallen soldiers - so the Hale household had never been wealthy , often living on the edge of scarcity . Elowen had never seen a piece of ivory so large , so perfectly formed . She ran her fingers over its cool , smooth surface , her eyes wide with wonder . " This is truly for me ? So exquisite . " Who knew being shoved by Alaric could yield such a treasure ? Perhaps I should have let him push me a few more times . She lifted her head and glanced at Cassian .

He was leaning back in his wheelchair , his expression detached , almost indifferent . He had been like this since their encounter with Alaric , speaking little to her , Elowen wasn't sure why . She turned it over in her mind and arrived at the only logical explanation- MCN 11 O KIKA G O < Γ 2/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 52 The Price of Transgression +35 Free Coins In public , he had to show respect for Theodric's authority - the marriage was Theodric's decree , so he would treat her with a certain courtesy and patience . In private , however , his indifference returned .

In her past life , Alaric had been the same - one person in public , another in private . She had grown accustomed to it . She supposed it was just the way of men . Still , Cassian was an improvement . At least in front of others , Alaric had never defended her . Cassian had . " Your Graces . " Bran entered from outside . " A physician from the palace has arrived . He is to examine Her Grace and prescribe any necessary remedies . " Cassian gave a noncommittal grunt . Elowen ventured , " Perhaps you would prefer to wait outside , my lord ?

" Cassian glanced at her , another grunt his only reply . Without another word , he gestured for Bran to wheel him out . His coolness didn't wound her deeply . Alaric's treatment had been far crueler . She looked again at the beautiful ivory scepter , and her spirits lifted considerably . Cassian ever wishes for an annulment , this was a gift to me personally . I could take it with me . Sold , it would provide more than enough to live comfortably for the rest of my days .

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## Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 53: Chapter 53 - Read Free English Romance Novel

Chapter 53 Doubts and a Gift While the physician examined Elowen's injuries , Cassian exited the bedchamber . A man in dark attire knelt silently at his feet . +35 Free Coins In addition to the two visible guards assigned to Elowen , Cassian had also dispatched a shadow guard to follow her discreetly , meant for her protection . He hadn't anticipated the incident with Alaric.g Cassian knew of Elowen's past with Alaric . He knew she was supposed to marry into the Crown Prince's Wing . He just didn't know what twist of fate had brought her to Duskmoor Manor instead .

When Alaric entered the chamber today , the way he looked at Elowen - yeah , that was a man still in love . And Elowen ? When Cassian had asked about her injury , she had started to say ' no . ' She had intended to hide it . So , what had passed between them ? Did Elowen regret becoming the Duchess ? Or did Alaric pine for her day and night ? A restless irritation coiled within him . " You followed the Duchess all day ? " Cassian asked , his voice low . " Yes , Your Grace , " the shadow guard answered . Cassian's eyes narrowed dangerously .

" When she sneaked off to see the Crown Prince , what did she say ? " Beside him , Bran looked startled . He couldn't help but ask , " Your Grace , you don't trust Her Grace ? " Cassian didn't even glance at him . " Haven't you heard ? She once injured her knee so severely saving the Crown Prince that she was bedridden for over a fortnight ." Bran , not being from Vanelle , was hearing this for the first time . He rubbed his hands together awkwardly . " But that was the past , wasn't it ? Her knee healed .

People grow apart , become strangers ." He had witnessed the last visit from the Crown Prince . Elowen's annoyance had been palpable . Cassian's expression remained impassive , clearly unconvinced . Bran stole another look at him . " Besides , Your Grace , you're handsome , powerful , favored by the King- why would she prefer the Crown Prince over you ? " Cassian frowned deeply . He turned to look at Bran . " You ... " # 00 MON 11 KIKAG O 1/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 53 Doubts and a Gift Bran waited , expecting him to say , " You have a point ! " 7 , " You have a point !

" Instead , Cassian's face was etched with Bran stared , baffled . What ? With suspicion . " You sure you're not into men ? " Even the kneeling shadow of guard couldn't help but glance up . Bran took three rapid steps backward . " I +35 Free Coins hot ! Absolutely not ! A gross misunderstanding , Your Grace ! " Cassian studied him for a moment , saw no sign of deceit , and finally looked away . " You'd better not be ." gaze turned cold again . " Before I fell into that coma , I heard she frequented the Crown Prince's Wing .

I wake up , and she's married into this manor , eager to sever ties with him . Does that not strike you as odd ? What if she and the Crown Prince had a lovers ' quarrel , and in a fit of pique , she married me ? And now she regrets it ? Where does that leave Bran ventured cautiously , " If that were true , would you seek an annulment , Your Grace ? " The word " annulment " grated on Cassian's ears . He frowned but didn't answer , gesturing instead for the shadow guard to proceed . The guard obeyed .

Starting from the moment Elowen encountered Alaric , he recounted every detail - their movements , expressions , words , even mimicking their tones with eerie accuracy . Cassian listened , his brow furrowing deeper with each sentence . " If I harbored feelings for you , wouldn't I treat a man who resembles you like a treasure ? Why would I have him shoveling manure in the stables ? " " My admiration for the Duke of Duskmoor is genuine . Marrying him was a considered choice , never a whim ." " Nonsense ! The sight of you disgusts me ! How could I possibly regret anything ?

I'm overjoyed you're no longer clinging to me ! " By the end , Cassian raised a hand to press against his temple . He had wronged her , He truly had ... But since when had she decided she wanted to marry him ? A " considered choice " ? What exactly had she considered ? The shadow guard fell silent when he finished . Bran didn't dare say a word either . 00 11 KIKAG r 2/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 KIKAG Chapter 53 Doubts and a Gift Cassian said nothing , and a heavy quiet descended . +35 Free Coins It was broken by the physician emerging from the chamber .

" Your Grace , the wounds on Her Grace's back aren't serious . She should avoid getting it wet for a couple of days and apply the salve regularly . It will heal soon enough . " Cassian looked up . " Oh , and one more thing ." The physician stepped forward , presenting a small white porcelain jar with both hands . " This is the salve for Her Grace's back . I forgot to give it to her just now ." Cassian reached out and took it . Bran escorted the physician out . The shadow guard vanished as silently as he had appeared. Cassian looked down at the jar resting in his palm .

A faint , approving thought crossed his mind . That physician has good sense . After the physician left , Elowen's eyes wandered back to the magnificent ivory scepter on the table . She pondered . Such a precious gift deserved a proper place . It would be a tragedy if it were damaged or lost . But where ? Holding its box , she paced the room . Finally , she decided on the second - to - lowest shelf of a tall display cabinet . She carefully placed the box , then couldn't resist opening the lid again . Her fingers traced the intricate carvings on the smooth ivory .

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## Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 54: Chapter 54 - Read Free English Romance Novel

Chapter 54 I'm of Little Use Now Chapter 54 I'm of Little Use Now " You like it that much ? " Cassian's voice sounded from behind her . Elowen startled , turning around slowly . " M - my lord ... " He was alone in his wheelchair . Bran hadn't wheeled him in ; he had managed it himself . Elowen hurried over . " Where's Bran ? " +35 Free Coins " He's seeing the physician out , " Cassian replied succinctly . He glanced past her at the ivory / scepter . " You like it that much ? " Elowen found it strange . His manner toward her seemed different from earlier . " I do , " she answered .

" It's a gift from His Majesty , of course I appreciate it . And it truly is beautiful . " " I have many such things . The vaults are full of them , " Cassian said , raising an eyebrow . " You accepted the household keys . Haven't you bothered to look ? " " I haven't had the chance , " Elowen admitted , a little sheepish . Besides , everything in the vaults belonged to Cassian . After an annulment , she couldn't take a single piece . Unaware of her thoughts , Cassian simply said , " You should . " Elowen nodded . " Once I've finished reviewing the ledgers , I should take an inventory .

" She then looked down at him . " My lord , why did you come in ? " His gaze settled on her face . " Before you left , you said you'd bring me back something tasty from the birthday banquet . " Elowen froze , I completely forgot . She maintained a perfectly straight face . " The food at the Princess ' banquet was really quite ordinary . Nothing worth mentioning . " " Was it ? " His tone held a hint of skepticism . " It was , " Elowen insisted , quickly changing the subject . " Are you hungry ? " Cassian gave a noncommittal grunt .

Elowen ventured , " Shall I go to the kitchen and make you something good ? " He shook his head . " No need ." 00 MION 11 KIKA G 111 O r 1/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 54 I'm of Little Use Now Elowen's heart skipped . Did he notice my lie ? But then he added , " You have an injury . Stay out of the kitchen . Let the servants handle it ." Elowen couldn't help but look at him a moment longer . +35 Free Coins She remembered her past life , when an old knee injury had flared up , accompanied by a low fever . She had stayed in bed .

Alaric had returned from court , found no breakfast waiting , and was furious . He had bellowed her name . Elowen had forced herself to sit up , her voice weak . " Your Highness , I'm unwell . " Alaric had only sneered , " What now ? You forced your way into my life . Can't you handle a little discomfort ? " He had stared her down . " Get up and make my meal ." Looking back , Elowen couldn't fathom her past self . Why didn't I just poison his food ? End it for both of us ? But instead , she had dragged herself up and cooked him an elaborate breakfast .

That's what happens when you're too nice - you get walked all over . The manor kitchen sent food up fast . Elowen , already full from the banquet , only picked at her meal . Cassian glanced at her plate . " Not hungry ? " Elowen hesitated . " ... I'm watching my figure . " One of Cassian's eyebrows lifted slightly , but he said nothing more . After they finished , Elowen stood , " My lord , I'll go look at the ledgers . " Cassian dabbed his mouth with a napkin , unhurried . " You're injured . The ledgers can wait . " He set the napkin down and tilted his chin toward the bedchamber .

" Go lie on your stomach . " Elowen blinked . " Pardon ? " His tone was matter - of - fact . " To apply the salve . " Elowen was taken aback again . " I ... I can manage . " " On your back ? " Cassian asked . " Can you see it ? Can you reach it ? " She couldn't . She thought for a moment . " Mira could help me . Or Cora . " 11 O KIKI G 2/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 54 I'm of Little Use Now +35 Free Coins Mira , standing nearby , immediately chimed in , " Yes ! I grew up with Her Grace . When the General used to discipline her , I was always the one to apply the ointment !

" Cassian's eyebrow twitched almost imperceptibly . Elowen's cheeks flushed . " That was a long time ago . I was young and foolish . " Mira nodded eagerly . " Yes , yes ! Her Grace is very sensible now ! But I can still apply the salve very well ! " Elowen felt like she was listening to a job application ... Cassian merely hummed , lowering his eyes . " Of course . I'm of little use now . " Elowen stared . " Little use ... ? My lord , how can you say that ? " His voice was quiet . " I'm confined to this chair . I cannot walk . I cannot even perform a simple task like applying salve .

What use am I ? " Elowen was speechless . She looked at him . The usual sharp , commanding edges of his strikingly handsome face were gone , replaced by an uncharacteristic , profound dejection . She had never seen this side of him , not in this life nor the last . The mighty Duke of Duskmoor , who had once ridden fearlessly across battlefields , now awakened to find his legs useless , his capabilities diminished . It was no wonder a deep - seated frustration festered within him .

oo Cedella Cedella is a passionate storyteller known for her bold romantic and spicy novels that keep readers hooked from the very first chapter. With a flair for crafting emotionally intense plots and unforgettable characters, she blends love, desire, and drama into every story she writes. Cedella's storytelling style is immersive and addictive-perfect for fans of heated romances and heart-pounding twists.

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## **Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 55: Chapter 55 - Read Free English Romance Novel**

Chapter 55 Not Care for Him ? Here was a rare , simple task he could perform - applying her salve - and she had refused him . Of course he would feel dejected . +35 Free Coins Elowen's heart softened . She gentled her tone . " But Mira and Cora will have their own duties . They're likely quite busy . And I truly injury myself ... I suppose I must trouble you , my lord . " Sannot see th Cassian's eyes lifted slightly . " May I ? " Elowen tilted her head , offering a soft smile " There's no one else I'd trust . " Her voice was clear , like a stream flowing over smooth stones .

Now it was even softer , almost coaxing , as if speaking to a child . Cassian found it surprisingly agreeable . " Very well . " Elowen pushed his wheelchair into the inner chamber , stopping near a table . " I'll sit here . It'll be easier for you . " She moved a stool into position , then , suddenly shy , avoided his gaze . " Wait here a moment . I need to use the bath chamber . " Cassian wasn't sure what she intended . But when Elowen re - emerged , her face was flushed a remarkable shade of pink . Cassian was momentarily at a loss for words .

Elowen had already turned her back to him and begun to untie the sash of her overdress . Her fingers trembled slightly with nervousness , making her movements slow . It was summer ; the garments were light . Elowen carefully slipped her outer and inner robes down together , baring her back . Cassian's gaze fell on the smooth , pale skin of her back . It took him a long , distracted moment to realize what she had done in the bath chamber . She had removed her chemise . The realization sent an unexpected jolt through him . His heartbeat quickened ; his throat moved as he swallowed .

Watching her bow her head slightly , so earnest and focused on this vulnerable act , a rare flicker of genuine remorse stirred within Cassian . He had been a mischievous child . Pranks and trickery were second nature . oo MON 11 o O KIKAG 1 O 1/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 55 Not Care for Him ? +35 Free Coins When caught , he would instantly adopt a pitiable look , and with his naturally handsome features , he'd escape punishment time and again . Later , on the battlefield , this had evolved into strategic deception . Afterward , Cassian would lounge and think , easy mark .

Just moments ago , he had deliberately played on her sympathy to gain this small privilege . But now , seeing her sit there so obediently , having shed her garments , he found himself thinking - I really am a scoundrel . " ... Aren't you going to start ? " Elowen asked softly . Her voice felt like a feather brushing against Cassian's heart , leaving a faint , ticklish sensation . He snapped back to the present . " Hmm . " He was startled to find his own voice slightly hoarse . He cleared his throat .

" Right away . " Cassian picked up the white porcelain jar , poured a small amount of salve into his palm , and pressed it gently against Elowen's back . She was slender . Even seated , he could trace the delicate curve of her spine . Her skin was delicate , marred now by several ugly bruises that starkly disrupted its perfection . Cassian's eyes darkened . He cursed Alaric silently again . His touch grew even lighter as he worked the salve into the bruised areas . These hands had ended countless lives . Today , he wanted , more than anything , not to hurt her .

He tempered his strength to its gentlest . The fierce energy of a warrior melted into tenderness . Elowen could feel the pads of his fingers on her skin . He was trying to be gentle , but he was a military man , his palms and fingers calloused from years of wielding weapons . Her own skin was delicate . The friction , however light , held a faint sting . She gritted her teeth , determined not to make a sound . If she complained , he might retreat into that wounded pride again . " My lord ... " Elowen tried to distract herself with conversation . " You seemed ...

subdued after we returned from the palace . May I ask why ? " Cassian certainly couldn't say it was because he'd suspected her of lingering feelings for Alaric . He answered slowly , " Not subdued . Merely tired . " O MON 11 o KIKAG O 2/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 55 Not Care for Him ? +35 Free Coins Elowen thought for a silent moment , then pressed her lips together . " There's something I feel I should clarify . " " Oh ? " His tone was questioning . " In the past , I was on good terms with the Crown Prince , " she chose her words carefully .

" Many people assumed I would marry into the Crown Prince's Wing , " Cassian was taken aback . He hadn't expected her to broach the subject herself . " I did not , " Elowen stated plainly . " And I never will . " " ... Why not ? " Cassian asked . She wasn't about to mention her rebirth . She said simply , " I do not care for His Highness , and he does not care for me . Forcing such a union would be torture for us both . " " Not care for him ? " Cassian recalled the look in Alaric's eyes . As a man , he recognized it . It was anything but indifferent . " No.

" Elowen's voice was calm , certain . " If I did , when His Majesty asked me at the banquet whom I wanted to marry , I would have named the Crown Prince . His Majesty said any man in the realm . If I had chosen him , His Majesty would not have refused . But I did not choose him . " oo Cedella Cedella is a passionate storyteller known for her bold romantic and spicy novels that keep readers hooked from the very first chapter. With a flair for crafting emotionally intense plots and unforgettable characters, she blends love, desire, and drama into every story she writes.

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## Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 56: Chapter 56 - Read Free English Romance Novel

Chapter 56 He Isn't Interested in Me Chapter 56 He Isn't Interested in Me Cassian paused . " You chose me . " Elowen gave a soft , affirmative hum . Cassian raised an eyebrow . " So , by your lo Elowen stiffened , instinctively starting to tu that means you have feelings for me ? " her head . But she had forgotten her upper garments were down , and her chemise long since removed . The sudden movement presented a breathtaking , unintended view directly to Cassian . Elowen realized first . A short , sharp gasp escaped her .

+35 Free Coins She yanked her robes up to cover herself , her face flaming crimson , and fled back into the bath chamber without a backward glance . Behind her , Cassian remained momentarily stunned . Who would have thought , beneath that slender frame ... As the memory replayed , a slow , warm trickle began under his nose . He reached up a moment later , his fingers coming away stained red . Elowen stayed in the bath chamber for a long time , waiting for the heat in her cheeks to fully subside before stepping out with heavy steps . Cassian had composed himself .

He held a book , reading slowly under the lamplight . The soft glow cast shadows across the sharp lines of his face , his expression now cool and detached , as if nothing at all had happened . Elowen breathed an internal sigh of relief . So , he isn't interested in me . She wasn't surprised . Cassian had surely seen countless beauties . And he had someone else in his heart . In her past life , Alaric had often called her dull and uninteresting . At first , it had hurt . Everyone wants to be desired . For a long time , she had even avoided mirrors . But eventually , she had understood .

No one can be liked by everyone . When she had written Tales of Luminara as Azure , many had loved it , but many had not . 11 O O KIKI G 1/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 56 He Isn't Interested in

Me Such was the way of the world . Besides , a person's life wasn't lived solely to please others . Being content with oneself was enough . +35 Free Coins In the royal palace , lamplight flickered . When Isla arrived , the maids began to curtsy , but she waved them to silence . " Has Maerwyn retired ? " she asked softly . A maid bowed her head .

" She is preparing to , Your Majesty ." Isla gave a faint nod and entered the inner chamber . Maerwyn was sitting on her bed , a book in her hands . Even with her eyes still red and swollen from crying , she stubbornly tried to read by the candlelight at her bedside . Hearing footsteps , she glanced up at her mother , then looked away , sullen and silent . Isla sighed , " How are your knees ? Do they still hurt ? " Maerwyn huffed . " Thought you didn't care about me at all . " " How could I ? " Isla took a small jar of salve from her attendant . " Your father was simply too angry earlier .

He forbade the physicians and forbade me from intervening . But it's late now . His heart will soften . You are his daughter . He has always doted on you ." The words stirred a flicker of emotion in Maerwyn . " Come , let me apply this , " Isla said gently . Maerwyn obediently closed her book , set it aside , and lifted the hem of her nightgown . She had knelt for a long time without padding . Both knees were badly swollen and red . Isla's heart ached . Her gaze strayed to the book's cover - Tales of Luminara . Her daughter truly adored that book .

She applied the salve with utmost care , but Maerwyn still flinched , letting out a small , pained whimper . " Bear it a little longer ." Tears pooled in Maerwyn's eyes . " It's all that wretch Elowen's fault ! " She clenched her fists . " I'll make her pay for today's humiliation ! " OO 11 o O KIKAG 2/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 56 He Isn't Interested in Me +35 Free Coins After finishing with the salve , Isla spoke slowly , " She is the Duchess of Duskmoor now . Your uncle clearly intends to protect her . How will you make her pay ? This time , it was only confinement .

Next time , it could be worse . You must behave . " Maerwyn bit her lip . She was truly afraid of her father and her uncle . Why does Elowen have all the luck , with Uncle Cassian backing her ? A sudden thought struck her . She sniffed . " Mother , have you forgotten ? Doesn't Uncle Cassian have a woman he's loved for years ? If we could find her , what would Elowen matter then ? He wouldn't give her a second glance ! " Isla , however , lacked confidence in this scheme .

" The most pressing matter now is finalizing your brother's marriage ." Hearing that Alaric had inexplicably shoved Elowen today had set off alarms in Isla's mind . A deep unease settled within her . She feared Alaric still harbored feelings for Elowen . That couldn't happen . Today's mess had completely derailed the planned selection of a Crown Princess consort . Isla thought for a moment . " In a few days , when your father's temper has cooled , I'll find a reason to invite all the eligible noble ladies of Vanelle ." Maerwyn listened , a new idea taking root . She glanced at her mother .

" You fuss over my brother's marriage , Mother . What about mine ? " O O Cedella Cedella is a passionate storyteller known for her bold romantic and spicy novels that keep readers hooked from the very first chapter. With a flair for crafting emotionally intense plots and unforgettable characters, she blends love, desire, and drama into every story she writes. Cedella's storytelling style is immersive and addictive-perfect for fans of heated romances and heart-pounding twists.

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# Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 57: Chapter 57 - Read Free English Romance Novel

Chapter 57 An Unwelcome Visit +35 Free Coins Isla answered , " Your marriage is for your father to decide . The royal court's selection of worthy young assessments are done , he will choose the finest and most distinguished of lords is this season . Once s them for you . " Irritation flared in Maerwyn . She raised her voice . " I've told you , I don't want them ! " Isla frowned . " Are you still fixated on that young general ? Let me be clear - your father will never consent . " " You're all prejudiced against him ! Elowen is from a military family too !

Why can she marry Uncle Cassian , but I can't marry a general ? " " That is entirely different ! You are being willfully childish ! " Maerwyn refused to speak another word . She pulled the blanket over her head . No matter how Isla called to her , she remained silent and unresponsive beneath the covers . With a sigh of exasperation , Isla finally relented . " Get some rest . I'll see you tomorrow . " She left the chamber . Under the blankets , Maerwyn wept tears of bitter frustration . Her parents didn't respect her . They didn't understand her . Only Azure truly did .

If only she could meet Azure in person , that would be perfect . Over the next few days , Cassian continued to apply the salve for Elowen . At first , Elowen was tense and embarrassed , the memory of her accidental exposure flashing in her mind . But Cassian was always composed , his manner detached . Gradually , she relaxed . He was so matter - of - fact about it . If she remained overly sensitive , she'd seem prudish . Her injury wasn't severe . After two days of treatment , it was mostly healed . Cassian became slightly busier , occupied with military affairs .

Due to the physician's orders , Elowen had avoided bathing thoroughly . She was starting to feel less than fresh and planned a proper bath for the evening , " Your Grace , " Cora entered from outside . MCK 11 O O KIKAG O 1/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 A Chapter 57 An Unwelcome Visit Elowen looked up . Cora presented an invitation . " From the palace . " +35 Free Coins Elowen took it as Cora co " Her Majesty is hosting a poetry gathering . All the young noblewomen of Vanelle are invited . This is our summons . " Elowen understood immediately .

Isla was persisting with her plan to select a Crown Princess consort for Alaric . She gave a slight nod . " We will attend . " She accepted the invitation . Later that same day , another maid announced visitors at the outer gate of their courtyard . " Your Grace , Marwen is here with her younger daughter , Sylvia . They request an audience , saying they've come specifically to pay their respects . " Cora looked worried . " If Marwen's here to pay respects , she's probably up to no good ... " Mira raised a hand .

" Your Grace , if you don't want to see them , I'll go out and chase them off myself ! " Elowen couldn't help a small smile . " No need . " She gestured to the maid . " Show them in . " She had a fair idea why Marwen had come . Shortly , the maid ushered Marwen and Sylvia inside . Compared to her haughty demeanor during her last visit , Marwen was all smiles today . She offered a respectful , " Your Grace . " She then tugged the young woman behind her forward . " Quickly , greet Her Grace ! " Elowen lifted her eyes to observe the mother and daughter . This was her first time seeing Sylvia .

She appeared a year or two younger than Elowen . Her features were different from her sister Vivian's - she didn't much resemble Marwen . She likely took after her father , Aldric . Now , Sylvia kept her head lowered , her voice barely a whisper . " Elowen . " Marwen's expression instantly darkened . She gave the girl a sharp , displeased push . " Manners ! What did I tell you before we came ? This is the Duchess of Duskmoor ! " Sylvia's head dropped even lower , " ...

Your Grace ." Marwen rubbed her hands together , her face fixed in an ingratiating smile as she turned back to Elowen , about to speak . 00 MON 11 KIKA G HI O 2/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 57 An Unwelcome Visit +35 Free Coins Elowen , smiling pleasantly , spoke first , " Cassian is , after all , Sylvia's cousin . I am a cousin - in - law . ' Your Grace ' sounds rather formal . Elowen is more familial . " Marwen's smile froze for a fraction of a second . " Please , sit , " Elowen invited . " Cora , some refreshments , please .

" Marwen , her planned opening line effectively blocked , sat down uncomfortably , still eager to state her purpose . Elowen was in no hurry . She gestured unhurriedly . " Try this , Aunt . " Marwen took a hasty sip , scalding her tongue , but brushed it aside . She smacked her lips and fixed her eager gaze on Elowen . " Your Grace , I've heard ... there's to be a gathering at the palace in a few days ? Hosted by the Queen herself ? Inviting all the young ladies of Vanelle ? " Elowen nodded . " Yes . The invitation arrived today . I've already accepted . " She raised an eyebrow .

" Your news is quite swift , Aunt ." Marwen gave an awkward laugh . " Oh , just something I overheard in passing ... " Elowen smiled , " So you came today just to tell me about that ? " 1 Cedella Cedella is a passionate storyteller known for her bold romantic and spicy novels that keep readers hooked from the very first chapter. With a flair for crafting emotionally intense plots and unforgettable characters, she blends love, desire, and drama into every story she writes. Cedella's storytelling style is immersive and addictive-perfect for fans of heated romances and heart-pounding twists.

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## **Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 58: Chapter 58 - Read Free English Romance Novel**

Chapter 58 Marwen's Request Chapter 58 Marwen's Request +35 Free Coins Marwen swallowed nervously , gathering her courage . She gestured to Sylvia beside her , trying to sound casual . " It's just ... my daughter , Sylvia , she's so sheltered . Spends all her time embroidering at home , hardly any friends in Vanelle . I was thinking ... perhaps you could take her with you to the gathering ? Let her see a bit of the world ? " Elowen smiled but remained silent . Marwen's goal wasn't to broaden Sylvia's horizons or make friends .

She wanted her daughter to be seen by Isla and , more importantly , by Alaric . The silence made Marwen more anxious . " I know I've made mistakes in the past , presuming on my seniority . But Sylvia is innocent in all that . Could you please take her ? " Elowen sighed softly , " It's not that I'm unwilling . But the gathering is a royal affair , hosted by Her Majesty . I'm still newly married . I

don't have the authority to make such a decision . Perhaps later , when the Duke returns , I'll ask him ? " Marwen nodded , though her expression was strained . " I ...

I suppose that will do ." She stood up . " If there's news , please send someone to tell me . " " Of course . " Marwen led Sylvia away . Mira looked puzzled . " Your Grace , didn't His Grace say you have full authority over household matters ? Why would taking Lady Sylvia require his permission ? " Cora smiled knowingly , " Her Grace isn't really going to ask him . She's deliberately making Marwen wait ! " Elowen nodded in agreement . Marwen had finally come begging . If Elowen agreed immediately , it would be too easy . Marwen's arrogance would likely resurge within days .

Making her wait would take the wind out of her sails and teach her to be more compliant . Nevertheless , Elowen decided to mention it to Cassian . But for some reason , she waited and waited , the sky darkened , and Cassian still hadn't returned . Mira grew concerned , " Could something have happened ? " Elowen thought for a moment . " We're in Vanelle , He has Bran and guards with him . It's not likely . He's probably just delayed by some matter ." She wasn't overly worried . As the hour grew late , she finished reviewing the last of the household accounts , washed up , and went to bed .

oo MON 11 KIKAG ||| O 1/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 58 Marwen's Request Fatigue from the day claimed her quickly , and she fell into a deep sleep . As for Cassian , he finished his business quite late . Bran fretted , " Her Grace must have waited up for you , unable to sleep . " +35 Free Coins Cassian didn't comment , but the thought that someone was concerned for him , waiting for him - and that someone was Elowen - sent a warm , unfamiliar sensation through his chest . He only said , " Tell the coachman to hurry. " " Yes , Your Grace ! " They rushed back to Duskmoor Manor .

Lanterns glowed in the courtyard , providing light . But to Cassian's surprise , the windows of the main bedchamber were dark . He entered quietly . Elowen was fast asleep in bed , looking utterly peaceful . Cassian was so surprised he almost laughed . She went to sleep ? Without waiting ? And she's sleeping so soundly ! But as he wheeled closer to the bed , the moonlight fell on Elowen's serene , delicate face . She looked like a fine doll . His irritation evaporated instantly . He watched her for a long moment , then let out a silent sigh . Fine . I'll be patient .

The next morning , Elowen awoke feeling uncomfortably warm . Her hand rested on something hard and radiating heat . She squeezed it absently , noting a surprising firmness beneath a layer of softness . Her mind slowly processed this as her eyes opened . She was met with the sight of Cassian's shoulder . She was curled on her side , nestled against him , her right hand resting on his chest . And what she had just squeezed ... was his pectoral muscle . Sleep fled instantly . She snatched her hand back and glanced at his face . He was still asleep . Relieved , she carefully slid out of bed .

During breakfast , she brought it up . " Your Grace , Lady Marwen came by yesterday . She requested that I take Lady Sylvia with me to the Queen's gathering , " 11 O KIKAG O 2/3 16:24 Mon , May 11 Chapter 58 Marwen's Request Cassian gave a noncommittal grunt . " That's your decision ." Elowen nodded . " Okay . " After breakfast , Cassian went out again . +35 Free Coins Elowen sent a maid to Rose Hall with the message : Cassian had consented , and she would take Sylvia to the gathering . Marwen returned , her spirits high . T. M them . time , she wasn't alone with Sylvia .

Another woman accompanied She appeared to be in her early fifties , dressed , energy . Elowen knew her . a vibrant red overdress with a green undergown , full of She was the legitimate wife of

the Duke of Falconcrest , mother of Piers - Yvonne Leofric . She was notorious in Vanelle for her love of gossip and meddling , always prying and spreading rumors . In her past life , the tales of Elowen's life in the Crown Prince's Wing , her troubles with Alaric , had spread throughout Vanelle thanks largely to this very woman . As Elowen saw her now , a wave of deep aversion washed over her .

Her fingers clenched tight . MONS Cedella Cedella is a passionate storyteller known for her bold romantic and spicy novels that keep readers hooked from the very first chapter. With a flair for crafting emotionally intense plots and unforgettable characters, she blends love, desire, and drama into every story she writes. Cedella's storytelling style is immersive and addictive-perfect for fans of heated romances and heart-pounding twists.

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## Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 59: Chapter 59 - Read Free English Romance Novel

Chapter 59 A Well - Laid Trap Chapter 59 A Well - Laid Trap +35 Free Coins Marwen was effusive . " Just now , Cora brought your message to Rose Hall ! Sylvia , come on, kowtow to your sister - in - law and thank her . " Elowen frowned . " Why should she bow ? " Marwen laughed as if it were obvious , " A royal gathering is a grand affair ! Without your grace , such an opportunity would never come to my simple daughter . She must show her gratitude ! " She turned to Sylvia . " What are you waiting for ? Come here ! " Sylvia , head still bowed , shuffled forward and began to bend her knees .

Yvonne watched with keen interest from the side . " Stop ! " Elowen's voice cut through sharply . If Sylvia truly performed a full kowtow today , by tomorrow , the entire Vanelle would be buzzing . The lightest rumor would be that the Duchess of Duskmoor was haughty and demanding ; the worst would drag Cassian's name through the mud . That was the last thing Elowen wanted . Was Marwen deliberately setting a trap , or was she simply too oblivious to see the consequences ? " I'm her cousin - in - law . Taking her to a gathering is a small favor .

Demanding a kowtow puts me in an awkward position , Aunt . " Elowen's tone was cool . Marwen faltered . Elowen's gaze shifted to Yvonne , adopting a politely puzzled expression . " And you are ... ? " " Oh , this is Duchess Yvonne , the Duchess of Falconcrest , " Marwen introduced with false familiarity . " She came specifically to pay her respects . " " I see . Duchess Yvonne , please , sit . Mira , refreshments . Bring the tea His Majesty gifted us . " She added casually , " I received it when I attended Princess Maerwyn's birthday celebration recently .

" Yvonne offered a flattering smile . " His Majesty clearly holds Duke of Duskmoor , and you , in high esteem . " Elowen smiled back . " Isn't the Duke of Falconcrest also a pillar of the realm ? At the Princess ' banquet , I happened to meet your son - a most impressive young man . Is he ... spoken for ? " The mention of her son's marital status made Yvonne sigh . " He's a stubborn , troublesome boy ! Either the girl isn't pretty enough , or her character isn't to his liking . At his age , he won't even take a bedchamber maid !

It worries me day and night ." For this kind of chat , Elowen had a catchall line . " He simply hasn't met the right one . When fate decides , 1/2 O MON 11 KIKAL G 16:25 Mon , May 11 Chapter 59 A Well - Laid Trap he'll be more eager than anyone ." Pleased , Yvonne accepted the tea Mira presented . 28 +35 Free Coins Elowen observed her discreetly , wondering what had truly brought Yvonne here . Yvonne took a delicate sip and set her cup down . " I heard something rather shocking happened at the Northern Garrison yesterday . " " The Northern Garrison ?

" Marwen feigned surprise , glancing meaningfully at Elowen . " Wasn't that where His Grace was yesterday ? What happened ? " Ah . Here it comes . Elowen played along , asking with mild interest , " Yes , what did happen at the garrison yesterday ? " Yvonne's eyes lit up with gossipy fervor . " They say a woman caused a terrible scene , forcing her way into the camp . Apparently , she had a secret understanding with one of the officers there . He'd sworn he loved her for years , treated her like a treasure , but never got around to marrying her .

Then , for some reason , the officer suddenly married another woman recently . The jilted lover was so furious she stormed the garrison , making a dreadful spectacle , threatening to take her own life ! " Marwen's face was a mask of exaggerated shock . " How dreadful ! Who was the officer ? " Yvonne shrugged . " No idea who exactly . Just heard he's someone important in the garrison . They tried to hush it all up , of course . " Marwen's eyes widened dramatically . " Someone powerful in the garrison , and His Grace happened to be there yesterday - could it be ...

" She cut herself off there and looked at Elowen . The implication was clear - the officer in question was Cassian . Indeed , many in Vanelle knew Cassian had once loved a woman but never married her . And recently , due to Theodric's decree , Elowen had entered the picture . Now Elowen understood . Yvonne and Marwen had come here specifically for her . They had likely orchestrated this " casual " mention of the garrison incident , suspecting Cassian was involved , to gauge her reaction and confirm the scandal . Elowen's expression remained perfectly composed .

" Matters of the military are not for me to discuss ... " Marwen interrupted eagerly , " But Your Grace , you can ask His Grace about it when he returns ! " Elowen ignored her and continued calmly , " I recall , three years ago , a former Vice - Minister of War let a military matter slip . It reached the ears of a foreign spy , and our frontline suffered losses because of it . His Majesty was furious .

He had the Vice - Minister beheaded ." O KIKAL 11 G ||| O 2/2 16:25 Cedella Cedella is a passionate storyteller known for her bold romantic and spicy novels that keep readers hooked from the very first chapter. With a flair for crafting emotionally intense plots and unforgettable characters, she blends love, desire, and drama into every story she writes. Cedella's storytelling style is immersive and addictive-perfect for fans of heated romances and heart-pounding twists.

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## **Love's Unexpected Awakening: Elowen's Choice Novel Chapter 60: Chapter 60 - Read Free English Romance Novel**

Mon , May 11 Chapter 60 The Carriage Ride Chapter 60 The Carriage Ride The mention of a beheaded official instantly silenced Marwen . Yvonne's expression also shifted slightly . +35 Free Coins Elowen's gaze settled calmly on her . " So you see , since we are not in the military and don't know the facts , discussing it within these walls is one thing . But it ends here . It would be unwise to spread idle talk outside . Don't you agree , Duchess Yvonne ? " Yvonne forced a smile . " Yes ... of course , you're quite right ...

" Once outside the courtyard , Yvonne couldn't help but mutter to Marwen , " You were right . That girl is sharp . A few words , and she shut us both down completely . " Marwen sighed dramatically , " Yes , my life here is truly difficult . " Yvonne cast her a sympathetic look . " You've got it rough . " Her eyes flicked to the trailing Sylvia . " But if your daughter catches the Crown Prince's eye - even as a concubine - you won't have to endure such slights . " Marwen beamed . " I'll take that blessing , Duchess ! " The visit from Yvonne and Marwen left Elowen in a somber mood .

She would , of course , not ask Cassian about the incident . If Yvonne's story was true , if Cassian's former love had indeed gone to the garrison to confront him , then Elowen would likely have to step aside . She wondered if the money she had now would be enough to live on for the rest of her life . Perhaps I should return to my old trade ? Write another story as Azure ? With these thoughts , the day of the royal gathering arrived . Given the summer heat , Isla had scheduled it for the morning . After breakfast , Elowen instructed Bran to prepare the carriage .

" Two carriages , " Cassian stated from beside her , his tone unhurried . Elowen glanced at him , surprised . Reading the confusion in her eyes , he explained , " I'm coming too . " Elowen stared . 11 O O KIKAG THE O 1/3 16:25 Mon , May 11 Chapter 60 The Carriage Ride Seeing her expression , Cassian raised an eyebrow . " Don't want me there ? " Elowen shook her head fast . " That's not it ... " +35 Free Coins These past few days , Elowen had decided to revive her pen name .

She'd heard the publisher who used to handle her work would be at the gathering , and they had arranged to meet discreetly . She had always kept her identity as Azure a closely guarded secret , even within her own family . If people around her found out she wrote stories ? Mortifying . Just imagining friends or family reading her work made her cringe . She had said nothing about it to anyone , least of all to Cassian . If he accompanied her , she would feel constrained , unable to slip away for her private meeting . She felt a twinge of anxiety but carefully kept it from showing .

As they moved to leave , they found Sylvia already waiting outside . Seeing them , she immediately curtsied . " Your Graces . " Cassian gave a noncommittal grunt . Elowen offered her a kind smile . " Come on . Let's ride together . " " Yes . " Two carriages stood ready . Elowen's plan was to ride with Sylvia . She was about to head toward one when Cassian's voice stopped her . " Elowen . " She turned . He looked at her , a faint smile on his lips . " Aren't you coming ? " Elowen gave a soft , " Oh , " and obediently walked over to him / Inside the carriage , they rode in silence .

Elowen could not fathom it . For all the talk of a verse salon , this gathering was plainly a crown princess selection hosted by Isla expressly for Alaric , Cassian clearly didn't dote on his nephew , so he wasn't here to help Alaric vet brides . So why was he coming ? The carriage rolled smoothly into the palace grounds and came to a halt . MON 11 1 KIKAG MI 2/3 16:25 Mon , May 11 Chapter 60 The Carriage Ride Suddenly , from outside , came the sound of light , mocking female laughter . " Isn't this the Duskmoor carriage ? The Duchess is alone in the palace again , I see .

" " Before marriage , she came alone in the Hale carriage . After marriage , she still comes alone . " " Call it a marriage ? It's more of a joke . " The words felt eerily familiar . In her past life , at

Maerwyn's birthday taunts . +35 Free Coins Canquet , because of her betrothal to Alaric , she had endured similar This time , reborn and now the Duchess , having seen Theodric first , she had avoided such a direct encounter . She hadn't expected the same scenario to play out at this new gathering . She also honestly wondered - why did they think her marriage this time was a joke ?

" Now , now , that's enough . " That was Daphne's voice . " The Duke of Duskmoor already has someone else in his heart . The Duchess is heartbroken enough. Saying such things to her face will only make her cry . " The words sounded protective on the surface but were laced with even sharper barbs . Elowen frowned . Just then , a cold , derisive snort came from beside her . It wasn't loud , but it was icy , cutting through the chatter like winter frost . The women gathered around the carriage steps fell abruptly silent .

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